

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VIENTI 04199 250918Z

13

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSC-01 DRC-01

NSCE-00 SSO-00 /027 W

----- 041649

O R 250810Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9182

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 4199

FOR: BANGKOK FOR STAFFDEL MOOSE/MEISSNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (MEISSNER, CHARLES) (MOOSE, RICHARD)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT PLEASE DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT AND PASS TO PAT
HOLT, CHIEF OF STAFF, FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. IF
RECEIVED AFTER CLOSE OF BUSINESS OR OVERWEEKEND, HOLT
SHOULD BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED BY TELEPHONE THAT MESSAGE
HAS BEEN RECEIVED:

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. AS I WAS INSTRUCTED TO DO BY SENATOR FULBRIGHT, I
MET TODAY IN VIENTIANE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
PATHET LAO AND WITH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR.
DURING AN HOUR AND A HALF CONVERSATION WITH THE PATHET
LAO MINISTER OF ECONOMY, MR. SOTH PHETRASY, I STRESSED
THE GREAT IMPORTANCE WHICH SENATOR FULBRIGHT AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ATTACH TO
PATHET LAO COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAO CEASE-
FIRE AND PROTOCOLS AS THEY CONCERN PRISONERS OF WAR AND
MISSING IN ACTION. I POINTED OUT TO THE MINISTER THAT
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS FULLY SUPPORTED THE IM-
LEMENTATION OF THESE AGREEMENTS AND THAT AMERICANS OF
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VIENTI 04199 250918Z

ALL POINTS OF VIEW EXPECT THE PATHET LAO TO LIVE UP TO

THESE OBLIGATIONS. IN RESPONSE, MINISTER SOTH ASKED ME TO ASSURE SENATOR FULBRIGHT THAT THE PATHET LAO WOULD HONOR THE AGREEMENTS AS REGARDS PRISONERS AND MISSING, BUT THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PROVISIONS WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT PROGRESS ON MATTERS SUCH AS THE NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LINE OF DEMARCATION. I REMINDED THE MINISTER OF THE REQUIREMENT UNDER THE AGREEMENTS FOR ACTION BY JUNE 4, BUT HE SAID THAT THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED COULD NOT BE RESOLVED BY THAT TIME.

2. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE SPECIFIC CASE OF EMMET KAY, THE CONTINENTAL AIR SERVICES PILOT BEING HELD BY THE PATHET LAO. I SAID THAT SENATOR FULBRIGHT HOPED THAT MR. KAY WOULD BE RELEASED PROMPTLY. IN RESPONSE I RECEIVED ONLY AN ASSURANCE THAT HE WAS BEING WELL CARED FOR.

3. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR, MR. LE VAN HIEN, WITH WHOM I ALSO MET FOR OVER AN HOUR, TOLD ME THAT HE WAS AWARE OF SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S DEEP CONCERN OVER THE MISSING IN ACTION. HE REFERRED TO SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S RECENT LETTER TO PREMIER PHAN VAN DONG. I EXPLAINED TO HIM SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S DESIRE TO BRING ABOUT SOME PROGRESS IN THE MIA ACCOUNTING AND I ASKED HIM TO DETERMINE WHETHER SENATOR FULBRIGHT AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS COULD COME TO HANOI TO DISCUSS THE MIAS. AMBASSADOR HIEN, WHO IS A SENIOR OFFICIAL WITH THE RANK OF GOVERNMENT MINISTER, ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD CABLE HANOI AND THAT WE COULD EXPECT A RESPONSE EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE.

4. I WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE AMBASSADOR'S RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION OF SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S POSSIBLE TRAVEL TO HANOI. HE WAS BOTH INFORMED AND INTERESTED. ON THE BASIS OF MY DISCUSSIONS HERE AND WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN SAIGON, THE PROBLEM IN DEALING WITH NORTH VIETNAM ON THE MIA QUESTION IS THAT OF ITS LINKAGE TO OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE INSIST THAT THE MIA ISSUE CANNOT BE CONSIDERED IN ISOLATION FROM UNRESOLVED POLITICAL QUESTIONS OF CONCERN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 VIENTI 04199 250918Z

TO THEM. TO DATE, OF COURSE, BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENTS HAVE REFUSED TO DEAL WITH THE MIA QUESTION ON THIS BASIS. THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARE APPARENTLY QUITE SENSITIVE ON THIS MATTER. WE DID NOT SEE THE VIET CONG OR NORTH VIETNAMESE REPRESENTATIVES IN SAIGON. WHEN THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR HERE IN VIENTIANE BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF MIAS TO THE OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE

PARIS AGREEMENT, I TOLD HIM THAT HIS GOVERNMENT SHOULD
TAKE CARE NOT TO MISUNDERSTAND THE AMERICAN CONCERN
OVER THE MIAS. I TOLD HIM THAT SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S VIEW
IS THAT PROGRESS ON AN ACCOUNTING FOR THE MIAS IS AN
ESSENTIAL CONDITION FOR SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF OTHER
ISSUES.

END UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.

WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI04199
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740131-1121
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740516/aaaaaoaw.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MESSAGE FOR SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT PLEASE DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT AND PASS TO PAT
TAGS: OREP, (MEISSNER, CHARLES), (MOOSE, RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005